# BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

t: )	
)	File No. 8002015014545
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### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on February 22, 2019.

IT IS SO ORDERED January 24, 2019.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By:

Ronald H. Lewis, M.D., Ch.

Panel A

XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California			
Supervising Deputy Attorney General			
State Bar No. 239872			
San Diego, CA 92101			
San Diego, CA 92186-5266	•		
Telephone: (619) 738-9401 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061			
Attorneys for Complainant			
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BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA			
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
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In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 8002015014545		
3636 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300	OAH No. 2018050340		
	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER		
No. A 83402,			
Respondent.			
IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR	EED by and between the parties to the above-		
entitled proceedings that the following matters are	e true:		
PART	<u> TIES</u>		
Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant)	is the Executive Director of the Medical Board		
of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in			
this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by LeAnna E. Shields			
Deputy Attorney General.			
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	Attorney General of California MATTHEW M. DAVIS Supervising Deputy Attorney General LEANNA E. SHIELDS Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 239872 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9401 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061  Attorneys for Complainant  BEFOR MEDICAL BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CO STATE OF C.  In the Matter of the Accusation Against:  JOHN EDWARD HUMISTON, M.D. 3636 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92103  Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402,  Respondent.  IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR entitled proceedings that the following matters are PART  1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) of California (Board). She brought this action sol this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of Deputy Attorney General.		

- 2. Respondent John Edward Humiston, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Robert W. Frank, Esq., whose address is: 110 West A Street, Suite 1200 San Diego, CA 92101-4959.
- 3. On or about June 4, 2003, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 8002015014545, and will expire on October 31, 2020, unless renewed.

### **JURISDICTION**

4. On or about March 7, 2018, Accusation No. 8002015014545 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on March 7, 2018. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A true and correct copy of Accusation No. 8002015014545 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and fully understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 8002015014545. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and fully understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Having the benefit of counsel, Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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### **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a *prima facie* case with respect to the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 8002015014545, and that he has thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 to disciplinary action.
- 9. Respondent further agrees that if an accusation is ever filed against him before the Medical Board of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 8002015014545 shall be deemed true, correct, and fully admitted by Respondent for purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California or elsewhere.
- 10. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

### **CONTINGENCY**

11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in full force and effect. Respondent fully understands and agrees that in deciding whether or not to approve and adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and/or the Attorney General's Office.

Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Board, any member thereof, and/or any other person from future participation in this or any other matter affecting or involving Respondent. In the event that the Board does not, in its discretion, approve and adopt this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied up on or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees that should this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason by the Board, Respondent will assert no claim that the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by

its/his/her review, discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order or of any matter or matters related hereto.

### ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.
- 13. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.
- 14. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

### **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 issued to Respondent John Edward Humiston, M.D. shall be and is hereby Publicly Reprimanded pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 2227, subdivision (a)(4). This Public Reprimand, which is issued in connection with Accusation No. 8002015014545, is as follows:

From on or about October 17, 2016, through on or about October 20, 2016, Respondent committed gross negligence in his care and treatment of Patient A, a family member.

1. **EDUCATION COURSE**. Within one (1) year of the effective date of the Decision, Respondent shall complete not be less than twenty (20) hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME). The CME courses shall be aimed at correcting any areas of deficient practice. The twenty (20) hours of CME shall be at respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the CME requirements for renewal of licensure. Respondent shall submit proof of completion to the Board or its designee.

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1	ACCEPTANCE		
2 -	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have ful		
3	discussed it with my attorney, Robert W. Frank, Esq. I fully understand the stipulation and the		
4	effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402. I enter into this		
5	Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree		
6	to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.		
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8	DATED: 150ct, 2018 (Y) Annul		
9	JOHN EDWARD HUMISTON, M.D.  Respondent		
10	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent John Edward Humiston, M.D. the terms		
11	and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary		
12	Order. I approve its form and content.		
13	$\mathcal{A}$		
14	DATED: 10-16-2018 ROBERT W. FRANK, ESQ.		
15	ROBERT W. FRANK, ESQ.  Attorney for Respondent		
16			
17	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>		
18	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
19.	submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California		
20			
21	Dated: Od (6.2018 Respectfilly submitted,		
22	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California		
23	MATTHEW M. DAVIS Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
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25	LEANNA E. SHIELDS		
26	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant		
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STIPULATED SETILEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER (8002015014545)

# Exhibit A

Accusation No. 8002015014545

FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California SACRAMENTO march 7 2 MATTHEW M. DAVIS K. Voors Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 LEANNA E. SHIELDS Deputy Attorney General 4 State Bar No. 239872 600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 5 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 6 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9401 7 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 8 Attorneys for Complainant 9 10 BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA 11 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 12 13 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 8002015014545 14 JOHN EDWARD HUMISTON, M.D. ACCUSATION 3636 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300 15 San Diego, CA 92103 16 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402, 17 Respondent. 18 19 20 Complainant alleges: 21 **PARTIES** 22 Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official 23 capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer 24 Affairs (Board). 25 2. On or about June 4, 2003, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's 26 Certificate No. A 83402 to John Edward Humiston, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and 27 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought 28 herein and will expire on October 31, 2018, unless renewed.

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### **JURISDICTION**

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
  - 4. Section 2227 of the Code states:
  - "(a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found guilty, or who has entered into a stipulation for disciplinary action with the board, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:
    - "(1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the board.
  - "(2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the board.
  - "(3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the board.
  - "(4) Be publicly reprimanded by the board. The public reprimand may include a requirement that the licensee complete relevant educational courses approved by the board.
  - "(5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper.
  - "(b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for warning letters, medical review or advisory conferences, professional competency examinations, continuing education activities, and cost reimbursement associated therewith that are agreed to with the board and successfully completed by the licensee, or other matters made confidential or privileged by existing law, is deemed public, and shall be made available to the public by the board pursuant to Section 803.1."

5. Section 2234 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- "(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.
  - "(b) Gross negligence.
- "(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.
- "(1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- "(2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.

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### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Gross Negligent Acts)

6. Respondent has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by 2234, subdivision (b), of the Code, in that he committed gross negligence in his care and treatment of Patient A, as more particularly alleged hereinafter:

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- 7. On or about October 17, 2016, Patient A,<sup>1</sup> a family member of respondent who has a history of various medical conditions including bacterial endocarditis,<sup>2</sup> began displaying flu-like symptoms. Respondent treated Patient A with intravenous fluids and Ozone therapy.<sup>3</sup>
- 8. On or about October 18, 2016, respondent again treated Patient A with intravenous fluids and Ozone therapy.
- 9. On or about October 19, 2016, Patient A's symptoms seemingly improved, but then on or about October 20, 2016, Patient A's symptoms worsened. On or about October 20, 2016, respondent treated Patient A with intravenous fluids and Ozone therapy.
- 10. In the evening of October 20, 2016, Patient A's condition continued to decline and respondent brought Patient A to the emergency department at R.C.H.
  - 11. At no time during did respondent order laboratory testing to assess Patient A.
- 12. Upon presentation at the emergency department, Patient A was determined to be in septic shock, respiratory distress and hypovolemic shock. Further evaluation revealed vegetation of Patient A's tricuspid valve and acute renal failure.
- 13. Respondent committed gross negligence in his care and treatment of Patient A, which included but was not limited to:
  - A. Involving himself in the medical care of a family member, Patient A; and
  - B. Failing to refer Patient A to a higher level of medical intervention in a timely manner.

## SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

14. Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by 2234, subdivision (c), of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Patient names are withheld to protect privacy interests.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bacterial endocarditis is an infection of the heart's valves or inner lining.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ozone therapy is a form of alternative medicine treatment that increases the amount of oxygen by introducing ozone into the body.

the Code, in that he committed repeated negligent acts in his care and treatment of Patients A and B, as more particularly alleged hereinafter:

- On or about July 21, 2014, Patient B, who was undergoing chemotherapy for stage 3 breast cancer, presented for integrative cancer management.
- Respondent recommended Patient B use a product called Safinur<sup>4</sup> and an anti-Candida<sup>5</sup> supplement protocol. Following respondent's recommendation, Patient B purchased a one-month supply of Safinur and anti-Candida supplements.
- Patient B subsequently conducted research but was unable to locate any information 17. regarding Safinur or the anti-Candida supplement protocol.
- 18. Respondent committed repeated negligent acts in his care and treatment of Patients A and B, which included but was not limited to:
  - A. Paragraphs 6 through 13, above, are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein; and
  - B. Failing to provide Patient B with adequate information regarding Safinur and the anti-Candida supplement protocol to make an informed decision.

### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Violation of a Provision or Provisions of the Medical Practice Act)

Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by 2234, subdivision (a), of the Code, in that he committed a violation of a provision or provisions of the Medical Practice Act, as more particularly alleged in paragraphs 6 through 18, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

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<sup>4</sup> Safinur, *ligustrum japonicum*, is used in alternative medicine for its anti-tumor properties.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Candida. candida albicans, refers to the overgrowth of yeast or fungus in the body.

### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 83402, issued to respondent John Edward Humiston, M.D.;
- 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of respondent John Edward Humiston, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
- 3. Ordering respondent John Edward Humiston, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the costs of probation monitoring; and
  - 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: March 7, 2018

KÍMBEŘLY KIRCHMEYER

Executive Director

Medical Board of California Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant